

F1603  
2.T65



South Carolina  
State Commission of Forestry

October 1, 1971

JOHN R. TILLER  
STATE FORESTER

P. O. BOX 287  
COLUMBIA, S. C. 29202

Mr. Clair P. Guess, Jr.  
Executive Director  
S. C. Water Resources Commission  
2414 Bull St.  
Columbia, S. C. 29201

Dear Clair:

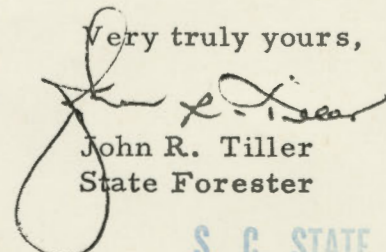
As I told you on the telephone, I am sending herewith two copies of a suggested environmental impact (forestry) statement on the proposed Trotters Shoals Reservoir.

It is my understanding that this, with other agency statements, will be combined into one interdisciplinary statement which will be sent to the Corps of Engineers who requested it. Such statement would be fairly representative of the studied opinions of all the disciplines and would outline all the factors and alternatives which should be carefully weighed in decisions which are reached.

I am not interested in releasing this (or other agency) statement to the press piecemeal, from which they can create controversy. If, or when released, I feel it should be the total statement reflecting the total, if differing, opinions and all the factors involved.

With kindest regards,

Very truly yours,

  
John R. Tiller  
State Forester

JRT:mbs  
Attachments

S. C. STATE LIBRARY

JAN 25 1972

SUGGESTED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR  
THE PROPOSED TROTTERS SHOALS RESERVOIR

The forest products industry is one of the largest and most important industries in South Carolina, adding approximately \$731 million to the economy of the state each year. In terms of value added by manufacture, the forest products industry ranks third in the state and is exceeded only by the textile and chemical industries. The primary wood-using industries in South Carolina provide direct employment for about 25,000 persons whose wages and salaries amount to approximately \$130 million annually.

In 1967, net annual growth of growing stock exceeded removals by over 200 million cubic feet, or 48 percent. However, projected increases in wood requirements and other removals could consume this declining surplus by the end of the century, or perhaps sooner. National projections indicate that total growth of all sizes and species will fall below projected removals before 1985. Demands by the year 2000 will require double the amount of wood now being harvested from South Carolina's forests.

Forested acreage in the state is being taken out of timber production and diverted to other uses for highways, housing developments, industrial sites, shopping centers, etc., at the rate of approximately 18,500 acres annually. At this rate, an additional 555 thousand acres will have been diverted from forest land to other uses by the end of the century.

It is necessary and desirable to promote on all forest ownerships the principles of high quality multiple use and sustained yield management, and to promote practices to protect and enhance environmental quality.



Multiple use management of forest lands considers and includes provision for timber production, grazing, fish and wildlife, air, water, soil, recreation, aesthetics, scenic beauty, and environmental quality, and wild, wilderness and natural areas, scientific research, and ecological considerations.

Multiple use involves the management of all the forest's resources and benefits so that they are utilized in the combinations that will best meet the needs of the people of South Carolina.

Sustained yield of the products and services involved in multiple use management means the achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the forests without impairment of the productivity of the land.

① The proposed Trotters Shoals Project would inundate about 26,650 acres, of which 14,800 would be in South Carolina. The total land required for the Project would be about 59,000 acres, of which 30,700 acres would be in South Carolina. Thus, the Project would eliminate timber production on 14,800 acres to be inundated and would practically remove an additional 15,900 acres from timber production by dedicating this acreage primarily for recreation, aesthetics, etc. The estimated direct dollar loss to the local economy of eliminating timber harvesting on this area is approximately \$295,000 annually. If the value of transporting and processing this timber is calculated, the total dollar loss to the economy would be \$4,425,000 annually.

South Carolina's latest Forest Survey, completed in 1968, reflects a reduction in good hardwood producing areas and reduction in production of high quality hardwoods during the past 30 years. At the same time, projections indicate that future market demand for hardwoods will increase 80% by the end of the

century, creating a need for more, rather than less good hardwood producing lands.

① The overstory vegetation in the Project area is primarily in hardwood and pine-hardwood types. The river and creek bottoms to be inundated are representative of the best areas for production of high quality hardwood in the Piedmont. Upland stands of pine-hardwood also produce some quality hardwood in mixture with shortleaf and loblolly pine.

②  
⑤ The greatest adverse impact to the forest resources caused by the proposed removal of this land area from timber production is an accumulative one since the forest land base is being steadily reduced, particularly in the better upland hardwood and pine-hardwood types.

In large part, land and timber management in the general area recognizes the multiple use concept and provides for timber production, fish and wildlife, water, soil, outdoor recreation, scenic beauty and environmental quality, etc.

The Project plan provides for primary emphasis on power production, and on water for municipal, industrial and recreational uses. Provision is also made for fish and wildlife, soil protection, outdoor recreation, scenic beauty and environmental quality, but would reduce and restrict timber production in the area.

It seems necessary and desirable to carefully weigh all aspects of the proposed Project so that the ultimate result will be in the best interest of the most people for all time.

September 30, 1971